

REGULAR NORTH PROVIDENCE SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
FEBRUARY 27, 2013

The North Providence School Committee met on February 27, 2013 at 7:15 p.m. in the Administration Conference Room at the High School. Members present were Chairman Marciano, Mr. Cataldi, Mr. Iannetta, Mr. Palmieri, Mrs. Picard, Mr. DaSilva and Mr. Andreozzi. Also present were Superintendent Smith, Mr. McNamee and Mr. Henneous. Interim Assistant Superintendent Goho was present for the Regular Session only. Appropriate disclosure was made by the Chair concerning compliance with R.I. General Laws 42-46-(4)&(5) indicating that any person to be discussed had been appropriately notified.

Motion by Mrs. Picard, seconded by Mr. Cataldi and carried to go into open session at 7:15 p.m. The regular session was recessed to go into Executive Session at 7:15 p.m. The regular session reconvened at 8:30 p.m.

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Chair called the meeting to order.

II. SALUTE TO THE FLAG

The Chair led the assembly in the pledge of allegiance and a moment of silence.

III. CHAIR TO REPORT OUT ANY VOTES TAKEN IN EXECUTIVE SESSION AND RECEIVE MOTION BY COMMITTEE MEMBER TO SEAL EXECUTIVE SESSION+ MINUTES PURSUANT TO APPLICABLE PROVISIONS OF RIGL 42-46-(4) & (5).

The Chair reported that there were no votes taken in Executive Session.

IV. CORRESPONDENCE

The Chair next reported that there was no correspondence received.

V. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS 3-4.

No comments were received. The Chair moved the communication from the Mayor up on the Agenda.

VII. SCHOOL COMMITTEE REPORT

Mayor Lombardi and Mr. Fossa addressed the Committee regarding merging the maintenance departments. He spoke about the fact that all the buildings in the Town are municipal property and we are expending a lot of money for outside services and felt that we can save a lot of money by doing it in-house. He spoke about having a central office where all the maintenance calls would come in. He talked about the Town's automotive division. Motion by Mr. Palmieri, seconded by Mr. Andreozzi to accept the Mayor's proposal to merge the maintenance departments. Several members of the Committee expressed concerns about voting on a merger without knowing what the legal implications are and without any details of how the merger would work. They felt that a concrete proposal should be made outlining how the merger would be handled, who would staff the department and what the financial cost would look like for the School Department. Mr. Fossa spoke about the fact that the School Department will still have autonomy and that we would only be merging the maintenance. Further discussion took place with respect to the proposal. Representative Corvese addressed the Committee to express concerns with accepting a proposal with no policy and procedures. He spoke about the Constitution of the State giving the

School Departments autonomy and that it is the motivation of the School Committee to keep an eye on education. He felt that it is a mistake voting on a concept without any policy or procedural plan and cautioned the School Department about giving up a part of its autonomy. He added that it would be a mistake and that the School Department is heading down a slippery slope. He felt that it is extremely egregious and suggested waiting for a month to allow the Mayor to provide the Committee with the details of the proposed merger. A member of the audience spoke on behalf of the proposed merger. A roll call vote was taken as follows: Mr. DaSilva, nay, Mr. Palmieri, aye, Mrs. Picard, aye, Mr. Cataldi, nay, Mr. Andreozzi, aye, Mr. Iannetta, aye, and the Chair, nay based on legal counsel's opinion. The motion carried by a vote of 4 to 3.

VI. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

1. Monthly Financial Report.

Superintendent Smith asked the Committee to grant advice and consent to approve the Monthly Financial Report as submitted. Motion by Mrs. Picard, seconded by Mr. Iannetta and carried to approve the Monthly Financial Report as submitted. The motion carried by unanimous consent.

2. Home Schooling.

Superintendent Smith asked the Committee to table the Home Schooling Request submitted until next month.

3. Field Trips.

Superintendent Smith recommended approval of the field trips as submitted. Motion by Mrs. Picard, seconded by Mr. Iannetta and carried to approve the Field Trip Requests as submitted. The motion carried by unanimous consent.

4. Policy for Parent, Student & Community Engagement.

Superintendent Smith recommended approval of the Policy for Parent, Student & Community Engagement as submitted. Motion by Mr. Iannetta, seconded by Mrs. Picard and carried to approve the Policy for Parent, Student & Community Engagement as submitted. The motion carried by unanimous consent.

5. 2014 Senior Prom.

Superintendent Smith recommended approval of the 2014 Senior Prom Contract as submitted. Motion by Mrs. Picard, seconded by Mr.

Iannetta and carried to approve the 2014 Senior Prom Contract as submitted. The motion carried by unanimous consent.

6. 2013 Winter Ball.

Superintendent Smith recommended approval of the 2013 Winter Ball Proposal as submitted. Motion by Mrs. Picard, seconded by Mr. Iannetta and carried to approve the 2013 Winter Ball Proposal as submitted. The motion carried by unanimous consent.

7. 2014 Junior Prom.

Superintendent Smith recommended approval of the 2014 Junior Prom Contract as submitted. Motion by Mrs. Picard, seconded by Mr. Iannetta and carried to approve the 2014 Junior Prom Contract as submitted. The motion carried by unanimous consent.

8. NECAP Presentation.

Interim Superintendent Goho gave a brief overview of the NECAP Report and spoke about the strengths and weaknesses. Members of the Committee offered comments.

9. Discussion Re: Facilities Assessment Bid.

Motion by Mrs. Picard, seconded by the entire Committee and carried to approve the Facilities Assessment Bid as submitted. The motion

carried by unanimous consent.

10. Facilities Assessment Bid and 11. Approval of Mechanical Engineer Quote.

Motion by Mrs. Picard, seconded by Mr. Palmieri and carried to go out to bid for a Facilities Assessment Bid and Mechanical Engineer bid. The motion carried by unanimous consent.

11. Superintendent's Communication.

Superintendent Smith spoke about recognition of Lori DiSimone as outstanding 1st year principal by the RI Association of Schools. The Chair read a citation and presented it to Ms. DiSimone.

VIII. REQUESTS TO ADDRESS COMMITTEE

No requests were received.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

1. Bids.

No bids were received.

4. Resignations.

Superintendent Smith recommended acceptance of the resignation of Meredith Medeiros – Crossing Guard – Post – Mineral Spring Avenue & Cooper Street – Marieville Elementary School Effective December 16, 2012. Motion by Mrs. Picard, seconded by Mr. Iannetta as to Resolution No. 13-01-07. A roll call vote was taken as follows: Mr. DaSilva, aye, Mr. Palmieri, aye, Mrs. Picard, aye, Mr. Cataldi, aye, Mr. Andreozzi, aye, Mr. Iannetta, aye, and the Chair, aye. The motion carried by unanimous consent.

2. Retirements.

No retirement requests were received.

3. Leaves of Absence.

Superintendent Smith asked the Committee to grant advice and consent to the Leaves of Absence as submitted. Motion by Mr. DaSilva, seconded by Mr. Iannetta and carried to approve the Leave of Absence Requests as submitted. The motion carried by unanimous consent.

4. Layoffs/Non-Renewals.

Superintendent Smith asked the Committee to grant advice and consent to the following Layoffs/Non-Renewals as submitted based on the unpredictability of state and federal grants. Motion by Mr. Cataldi, seconded by Mrs. Picard and carried to approve the Layoffs/Non-Renewals as submitted. The motion carried by unanimous consent.

5. Appointments.

Superintendent Smith asked for the advice and consent of the Committee to approve the appointment of Beth Conti – Crossing Guard – McGuire Elementary School – Smith Street & Fruit Hill Avenue Effective March 4, 2013 and Antonio Feragne – Crossing Guard –Marievillle Elementary School – Mineral Spring Avenue & Cooper Street Effective March 4, 2013. Motion by Mr. Iannetta, seconded by Mrs. Picard and carried to approve the Appointments as submitted. The motion carried by unanimous consent.

The Chair asked the appointees to stand and receive recognition and applause.

6. Employee Discipline.

Superintendent Smith recommended approval of the recommendation for Employee Discipline as submitted. Motion by Mr. Cataldi, seconded by Mr. Andreozzi, Mrs. Picard, and Mr. Iannetta to approve

the Employee Discipline as submitted. The motion carried by unanimous consent.

X. OLD BUSINESS

No Old Business was presented.

XI. USE OF PROPERTY

Superintendent Smith recommended approval of the Use of Property Requests as submitted. Motion by Mr. Cataldi, seconded by Mr. Iannetta and carried to approve the Use of Property Requests as submitted and to approve the Use of Property Request by Henry Andre and waive the fees. The motion carried by unanimous consent.

XII. APPROVAL OF BILLS

Superintendent Smith recommended approval of the February 2013 List of Bills as presented and submitted to the Committee. Motion by Mr. Iannetta, seconded by Mrs. Picard and carried to approve the February 2013 List of Bills as presented. The motion carried by unanimous consent.

XIII. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Mrs. Picard, seconded by Mr. DaSilva and carried to approve and seal the Minutes of the January 23, 2013 School Committee Executive Session as submitted. The motion carried by unanimous consent.

Motion by Mrs. Picard, seconded by Mr. DaSilva and carried to approve the Minutes of the January 23 and January 30, 2013 School Committee Meetings as submitted. The motion carried by unanimous consent.

Motion by Mrs. Picard, seconded by Mr. DaSilva and carried to approve and seal the Minutes of the January 30, 2013 School Committee Executive Session as submitted. The motion carried by unanimous consent.

XIV. PUBLIC COMMENTS IN AGENDA ITEMS 7 - 13.

Public comments were received.

XV. PENDING BUSINESS

No pending business was discussed.

XVI. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Mr. Iannetta, seconded by Mr. Palmieri and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 10:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Margie Caranci

Recording Secretary of the North Providence

School Committee

Date Submitted to Committee:

Date Approved by the Committee: